

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Decryption or descrambling information or other data modification information is encoded into patterns of merge bits for primary information. The decoded information is used to decrypt, descramble or otherwise modify the primary information. In another embodiment, a sequence of symbols is added to original data, the sequence of symbols selected to encode into channel bits having a large accumulated digital sum variance. In another embodiment, a single symbol in the sequence of symbols is replaced after error correction symbols have been added. In another embodiment, decryption or descrambling information or other data modification information is encoded into the sign of the digital sum variance of each blocked row of data.